

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 103945

O P 151708Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6968
INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

S E C R E T AMMAN 0839

EXDIS

FOR UNDERSECRETARY SISCO FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: MASS JO MO US IR
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE FOR MOROCCO

REF: STATE 037577

1. I WENT OVER IN DETAIL WITH RIFAI ON FEBRUARY 15 THE
POINTS IN INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL.I LATER HAD SHORT OPPORTUNITY
ALSO TO BRIEF KING ON MOST SIGNIFICANT POINTS.

2. RIFAI'S GENERAL REACTION WAS ONE OF PLEASURE
AT SO FORTHCOMING A RESPONSE. HE HAD A NUMBER OF
QUESTIONS ABOUT SOME OF THE POINTS WHICH I RAISED. WHEN
I TALKED WITH KING, HE TOO WAS PLEASED WITH INSTRUCTIONS.
HE FIRST ASKED ME FOR CONFIRMATION THAT GENERAL POINTS
I HAD MADE RELATED TO AIRCRAFT AS WELL AS GROUND
WEAPONS. WHEN I SAID YES, HE SAID HE WAS MOST PLEASED.

3. RIFAI ASKED IF WE COULD GIVE THEM A SPECIFIC
SCHEDULE FOR PROPOSED DELIVERIES TO MOROCCO FOR F-5E'S
IF NECESSARY WITH MOROCCAN APPROVAL.I SAID I WOULD
ASK. HE ALSO ASKED IF WE DID RECEIVE CONFIRMATION
INDEPENDENTLY FROM MOROCCO OF THE PROMISE MADE TO THEM
HERE FOR ONE FOR ONE REPLACEMENT OF F-5A'S BY NEW F-5E'S

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WOULD THE US LET THEM KNOW.I SAID I WOULD ALSO REQUEST

PERMISSION TO
DO SO. RIFAI INDICATED THAT
HE KNEW JORDAN HAD TO MAKE

ARRANGEMENTS DIRECTLY WITH
MOROCCO ON REPLACEMENTS.

4. KING SAID HE WAS SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED THAT FIRST
MOROCCAN F-5E WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL LATE
1977
NEARLY 20 MONTHS AWAY.

5. JORDANIANS SAY MOROCCAN COMMITMENT IS TO REPLACE
AIRCRAFT FOR AIRCRAFT SO COST SHOULD NOT COME INTO IT
(PARA 3 B REFTTEL).

6. RIFAI ASKED IF WE COULD TELL HIM SOMETHING MORE
ABOUT POSSIBLE ADVERSE PRESS AND CONGRESSIONAL COMMENT
ON TRANSFER. HE SAID HE ASSUMED THAT IT WOULD TAKE
THE FORM OF WHY SHOULD JORDAN GET MILITARY AID IF
IT WAS GIVING EQUIPMENT TO MOROCCO? IF THIS CASE
JORDAN WOULD EMPHASIZE THAT F-5A HAD BEEN GIVEN
TO IT BY IRAN, THAT MOROCCO NEEDED THEM BADLY NOW AND
THAT JORDAN WOULD NOT GIVE THEM UP WITHOUT A PROMISE
FROM MOROCCO ON REPLACEMENT. THEY ARE ALSO PREPARED
TO SAY THEY BELIEVE TRANSFER SERVES COMMON US-JORDANIAN
INTERESTS IN THE AREA (PARA 3 D)

7. RIFAI ASKED FOR PROPER FORM OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE
REQUESTING TRANSFER. WE ARE RESEARCHING OUR FILES
AND WOULD APPRECIATE BY RETURN MESSAGE DEPARTMENT TEXT
OF WHAT WE ASSUME IS A STANDARD FORM OF NOTE TO GIVE
RIFAI(PARA 3 E)

8. GOJ DID NOT RAISE SUBJECT OF AIRLIFT. JORDAN
ACCORDING KING PLANS TO FERRY AIRCRAFT.(PARA 3 F)

9. RIFAI HAS BEEN TOLD ABOUT BUY BACK PROCEDURES FOR
ACQUIRING RESIDUAL VALUE OF 36 100 MM RECOILESS
RIFLES. WE WILL ALSO PROVIDE AN AIDE MEMOIRE TO
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CINC JAF TO FOLLOW UP.

10. ON F-5 A, GOJ HAS BEEN TOLD OF DELAY
IN REPLACEMENT TIMES(ABOVE PARA 3)

11. WE WILL SHORTLY BE IN TOUCH WITH RJAF TO DETERMINE
WHEN F-5A WILL BE IN ORDER TO FLY AND NOTIFY YOU
IN SEPTEL. GOJ IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF PROVIDING

25 F-5 A ON CONDITION THAT IRAN GIVENS GOJ 5 F-5 A
OF ITS OWN. THIS WOULD SPARE GOI EMBARRASSMENT OF
HAVING IT AIRCRAFT DIRECTLY RE-TRANSFERRED FROM JORDAN
TO MOROCCO. IT WOULD ALSO PERMIT JORDAN TO ASK MOROCCO
TO REPLACE FOR GOJ 25 INSTEAD OF 20 F1 A WITH F-5E'S
ON A ONE FOR ONE BASIS. A POINT RIFAI HAD ALREADY
THOUGHT OF. I ASSUME JORDANIANS WILL RAISE THIS
DIRECTLY WITH TEHRAN.

12. RIFAI HAD NOT THOUGHT ABOUT STOPS REQUIRED TO
FERRY THE AIRCRAFT BUT APPRECIATED OUR WILLINGNESS
TO SUPPORT THEM IN REQUEST FOR VARIOUS FLIGHT CLEARANCES.

13. JORDAN HAS NO INTENTION OF MAKING REDEYES AVAIL-
ABLE FOR TRANSFER.

14. JORDAN IS AWARE THAT US WILL NOT MOVE UNTIL IT
RECEIVED A FORMAL REQUEST FOR TRANSFER.

15. ACTION REQUESTED RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS
PARA 3, 5 6 WITH LATTER ESPECIALLY URGENT.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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